CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

From the presentation and analysis of the data, the writer concludes that *Guns N' Roses* have produced many lyrics with swear words in two of their albums: *Use Your Illusion I* and *II.* The number of lyrics with swear words in both albums is bigger than that without them (over 50 %). Therefore, the data found about *Guns N' Roses* as one of the biggest rock bands has proved that some English rock songs are indeed containing swear words in their lyrics.

Some rock music shows up as a resistance against the existing situation that does not suit with the rockers. Customarily, rock is often considered as a music rebellion (Reynolds,1995). Therefore, it is understandable to find some swear words in their lyrics, since, the rockers might show their anger to the thing they object by producing swear words. The relation between rock and swear words is also strengthened by the functions of the words: **emotional** and **social**. It is clear that the way *Guns N' Roses* produce swear words, which shows their anger, emotions, and feelings, expresses both emotional and social functions of the words. As one song from *Use Your Illusion II* : *"Get in the Ring"* shows that some of the

swear words produced by *Guns N' Roses* are directed to their enemies. They function emotionally. Among the rockers themselves, it is possible for them to use swear words to show a good relationship. In this case, swear words function socially. Still from the song *"Get in the Ring"*, we can see the social function of swear words. The song, besides directed to *Guns N' Roses's* enemies, is also directed to their fans. They just wanted to greet their fans by including those words in their lyric. We should not interpret the meaning of the words literally. Since, *Guns N' Roses* were only trying to be friendly to their fans. The two contrastive purposes of producing swear words by the band can create some misunderstandings especially to the people who actually meant to be friendly. This fact supports **Geoffrey Hughes**'s notion that swearing is the most easily misinterpreted. There is always a possibility of a form of words being taken literally when it may be intended in a mild, familiar or even jocular fashion.

The swearing mode that is used by *Guns N' Roses* is **swearing at**. Swearing at means that swear words are produced to abuse something/ somebody else. In general, most swear words in the band's lyrics are directed to other people. They produced them at least for their enemies (*Get in the Ring*), fans (*Get in the Ring*), oppositions (*Shotgun Blues*), materialistic girls (*Back off Bitch* and *Don't Damn Me*).

Swear words are concerned with several matters: **religious, sexual and bodily function, national and racial insult.** Most swear words found in *Guns N' Roses's* lyrics are of sexual term. However, there are some others about religious matter or national/ racial insult. The result of the analysis supports **Geoffrey Hughes**'s theory that in Western society the major shifts in the focus of swearing have happened from religious matters to sexual and bodily functions and to national and racial insult. Even though, there is only one swear word about national and racial insult found in the songs, and it is Nazi, it is still possible to find other swear words about the matter in the other *Guns N' Roses's* albums. The result has also proved **Vico**'s axiom that historically, swearing has moved down from the domains of gods and heroes, and is now largely indiscriminate, with sacred, profane, sexual, political and racist modes coexisting in a various conglomeration.

As a device to rebel against the existing situation, rock music has succeeded to characterize itself as 'hard' music. Not everyone can enjoy the music. Its characteristic is also strengthened by the use of some swear words in its lyrics. As a music rebellion, it can be understood that the rockers want to express their feelings freely including producing swear words. However, the people who listen to the songs might think of some prejudices against them. The writer has analysed some of them that appear in *Guns N' Roses*

by drawing the attention of the respondents to the appearance of swear words in the band's lyrics. The result is the respondents think that the personnel of *Guns N' Roses* are rude, low educated, rebellious, angry, frank, emotional, having the habit to swear, to get drunk, coming from an unfriendly neighbourhood, and secular. Eventually, from the findings of the analysis, the writer has proved that people may think of some prejudices against the singer when they find some swear words in the lyrics.

Looking at *Guns N' Roses*'s story behind the scene, as had been collected by the writer from some media, the prejudices may be true. The personnels had never shown good behaviour . All of them were having serious problems with drugs. Additionally, a serial of bad records about their attitudes towards the press and fans were made by them. Apart from whether the news is true or not, (in *Get in the Ring* they denied the news and accussed the journalists of manipulating the information about them) *Guns N' Roses* have earned a bad image from the society. Therefore, some prejudices against them, as have been analysed by the writer in the thesis, are justified.

In general, the writer concludes that it depends on the rockers who make the songs if they want to be judged whether they are morally good or not. If they want to put some swear words in their lyrics because they want to

refer to rock music's characteristic as rebellion in music, they also have to take the risks of being sneered at by the society. Whether we like it or not , even though the functions of swearing can be emotional or social and that swear words do not always mean literal, attitudes towards swearing are still not constant. They seem to oscillate in cycles between acceptance and repression. One day people can accept the words because of some reasons but on another day they will fight against them.

BIBLIOGRAPHY